3.10

A True

RELATION

Of what is Diſcovered concerning the

MURTHER

Of the

Archbp of St. Andrews,

And of what appears to have been the Occaſion thereof.

ONE *Lovel* of *Cunnchie*, being Vaſſal to the Biſhoprick of St. *Andrews*; the late Archbiſhop, upon the account of ſome few duties reſting to him, did gift to his own behoof, the *Eſcheat* of *Lovell* of *Cunnchie*, in prejudice of his numerous family and many Creditors. One *Haxſtoun* of *Rachillet* being one of theſe Creditors, and at that time a Favourite of the Archbiſhops, prevails with him upon his giving Bond to the Biſhop for 1000 *l. Scots*, or thereby, to aſſign the gift in his Favours. Thereafter the Archbiſhop conceiving prejudice againſt him, Regiſtrates *Haxſtouns* Bond, ſurpriſes him

him at St. *Andrews*; having called for him, takes him with Caption, and keeps him Prisoner in St. *Andrews* for several months, until one Mr. *Falconer* a Conform Minister obtains his liberty. But *Haxstoun* having stronger resentments of his Imprisonment, than of the liberty to which he was restored, at his liberation in presence of witnesses, Vowed and Swore, *God dam him if ever he went to Church as long as there was a Bishop in* Scotland; *And that if he lived he should be revenged on the Bishops person.*

This *Haxstoun* was a vile person, had nothing of good in him, and was scarce admitted to the Society of Sober-men; He was not once only a Favourite, but servant of the Bishop, having Collected part of his Rents. However now the Archbishop (who was enemy to any thing that had interest in *Haxstoun*) Commands Captain *Carstairs*, *Garret*, and one *Scarlet* a Tinker, to apprehend *John Balfour* of *Kinloch*, brother-in-law to the said *Haxstoun*, (no Presbyterian, though an enemy to the Bishop, upon the injury done to *Haxstoun* his brother-in-law) who resisted the said *Carstairs*, and wounded some of them; And thereupon was cited before the Council, (though *Carstairs* had no Warrant to apprehend him, only to gratifie the Bishop), where not daring to appear, he is denunced and intercommuned, and made a stranger to his own House for two Years; wherewith, and with the robbing and spoiling committed by Bailiff *Carmichel*, the secret Councils Sheriff depute in *Fife*, The said *Haxstoun* and *Balfour*, being inraged and inflamed with the desire of revenge upon the Archbishop,

they

they did upon the third of *May* inſtant, with eight or nine other Ruffians, (three of them called as they ſay, *Balfours*) wait his return from *Edenbrough* to St. *Andrews*, and there near a houſe called *Magus*, in an open Muire, and within two miles or thereby of St. *Andrews*, they purſue him; the Coachman and Poſtilion perceiving, advertiſes him, and drives with all their might to eſcape; So that for near three quarters of a mile they could not overtake them. At laſt *Balfour* and *Haxſtoun* being better mounted than the reſt, *Balfour* comes up with the Poſtilion, commands to ſtop, and he refuſing, ſtrikes him over the face with his Sword, diſmounts him, and diſorders the Coach-horſe; *Haxſtoun* comes to the Coach and Fires ſeveral Piſtols at the Biſhop; but none of them, although they hit his body, did pierce him; they pierced through his Clothes, but left only blunt marks upon his body, ſomewhat like to burning.

Whereupon *Haxſtoun* drags him out of his Coach, ſtrikes him over the left Eye with a deep wound, who thereupon fell, and gave him ſeveral other mortal ſtrokes upon his head, and cuts in his arms, rifles his pockets, and his Daughters (who was with him in the Coach) of their Gold Watches and Papers, diſarms his ſervants without hurting any except the Poſtilion, who was wounded at firſt; and that his Daughter received a wound on her thumb, graſping to ſave her Father; and then flee all together.

This is the accompt both of the perſons, the occaſion of their wicked act, and the circumſtances of the act it ſelf:

Which

Which is discovered and made known by the Examination of the Bishops own servants upon Oath, and a servant of the house near the place where the fact was done, where *Haxstoun* and *Balfour* left their Coats before they attacked the Bishop; and after it was done, came and brought them away.

The Bishops servants depone, That a man mounted on a bay Horse stroke the Postilion and turned the Coach; and that he mounted on the white, dragged the Bishop out of the Coach, and killed him with his Sword.

And the servant in the House depones, That it was *John Balfour* of *Kinloch* was mounted on the bay Horse, and *Haxstoun* that was mounted on the white. That these two persons had a personal spite and hatred at the Bishop for the causes before, all know, and the Records witness. That the Bullets did not pierce his body, was seen by the Chyrurgeon, *William Borthwike*, who was sent by the Council to view his Body.

FINIS.

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